

House Resolution 1870

By: Representatives Frazier of the 123rd, Howard of the 121st, Murphy of the 120th, Brooks of the 63rd, Smith of the 122nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Andrew Johnson on the occasion of his 35th
2 pastoral anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Andrew Johnson has demonstrated his commitment to teaching the
4 Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

6 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was called by the Lord 35 years ago to lead the congregation
7 of First Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia, as the church's 13th pastor; and

8 WHEREAS, educated in the public school system of South Carolina, Reverend Johnson
9 attended the School of Theology at Benedict College and Morris College; and

10 WHEREAS, he stands as the longest serving pastor in the history of First Mt. Moriah Baptist
11 Church, and his vision and direction have helped the church grow in size and influence,
12 uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and serving as a spiritual leader and
13 place for fellowship; and

14 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was united in love and marriage to the late Gerline Harris
15 Johnson and has been blessed with six children, 13 grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, a trusted community leader, Reverend Johnson led a march against dope and
18 crime in 1992, helped record the hit single "Drug Dealers, Drug Pushers, We Don't Need
19 You Here," and served as a guest speaker at First Baptist Church in an effort to unite the
20 African American and white communities of Augusta; and

21 WHEREAS, this talented artist is the former lead singer of the Southern Six of Springfield,
22 South Carolina, and has recorded albums such as *The Task of the Church* and *Thou Art With*
23 *Me*; and

24 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
25 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
26 humanitarian, Reverend Johnson serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

27 WHEREAS, the unmatched spiritual assistance offered by Reverend Johnson is a source of
28 strength and direction for persons in all walks of life and from all economic strata; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
30 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
31 on behalf of persons in need.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body congratulate Reverend Andrew Johnson on the wonderful occasion
34 of his 35th pastoral anniversary and extend best wishes for many more years of successful
35 fellowship and leadership.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Andrew Johnson.